



Story and Art by Yumi Tamura

Vol. 23



shōjo

BASARA™

Vol. 23

Story and Art by
Yumi Tamura

Basara

Vol. #23

Shôjo Edition

Story and Art by

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Shôjo Edition

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PARENTAL ADVISORY
BASARA is rated T+ for Older Teen
and is recommended for ages 16 and
up. Contains realistic violence.



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After a global apocalypse, Japan passed into the hands of tyrannical kings. At the birth of a rebel chieftain's twins, the blind prophet Nagi predicted, "This is a child of destiny, one who will grow to lead the people and be the light in the sky of our nation's future." But Tatara, the "Boy of Destiny," was killed by the Red King, one of the four sons of King Ukon XV. Tatara's twin sister, Sarasa, took up his name and his mission, vowing to lead Japan to freedom and peace.

During her travels, Sarasa fell in love with a young man named Shuri, not knowing that he was the Red King. On the battlefield, the two finally learned one another's identities. After intense grief and soul-searching, both returned to their positions—rebel and king—convinced that they were destined to be enemies.

Now the final war for Japan is raging. Outside Kyoto, Tatara's rebel army clashes with the royal army, led by the Red King. Meanwhile, the royal traitor Hagiwara, leading a force of his own, has set into motion a plot to destroy both armies, burn Kyoto to the ground, and seize power as the new king of Japan. In the heat of battle, Sarasa and Shuri feel a bond that allows them to predict one another's every move. But neither of them planned on Hagiwara's traps. And in a battlefield duel, Shuri loses his left arm...



Hagiwara

One of the Four Councilors of King Ukon, Hagiwara is a powerful and ambitious nobleman. He leads a group of nobles who are plotting to overthrow the royal family. They're secretly building a new capital of Japan, where Hagiwara plans to install himself as king.



Asagi

His pale skin and refined demeanor belie his ruthlessness and deadly skills. Asagi is the Blue King, son of King Ukon and brother of Shuri, but for most of his life he posed as a bodyguard to the false Blue King. He is allied with Sarasa, but he helps the rebels only out of personal curiosity and to further his own goals.



Hayato

Hayato first met Sarasa while *both* of them were posing as Tatara. He joined Sarasa's forces and now sometimes impersonates Tatara to draw attention away from the "real" Tatara. He is a descendent of the great Suzaku leader Rasho.



Nagi

Extremely wise, Nagi is the blind prophet who declared Sarasa the "Child of Destiny." Also a priest, doctor and teacher, Nagi educated the young Sarasa and continues to aid and advise her.



Chacha

A strong leader and fighter, she was once a pirate chief but is now one of Tatara's generals. Captain of the rebel flagship, she has mustered Tatara's forces in Sakurajima.

Sarasa

When Sarasa and her twin brother Tataru were born, a prophecy was made: "This is a child of destiny..." The people of Byakko Village assumed Tataru was the "Boy of Destiny," and Sarasa grew up in his shadow. When the Red King's forces killed Tataru, Sarasa took up her brother's name and fought in his guise, not realizing that she was the real Child of Destiny. Sarasa was horrified by the discovery that her lover, Shuri, was also her most hated enemy, the Red King.



The Red King

Once in charge of Midwestern Honshu, Shikoku, and Kyushu, he is the youngest of King Ukon's four sons. Only a privileged few call him by his name, Shuri. After being ousted from his throne, he rebuilt his power. He is now preparing to succeed his father as King of Japan. Destroying the rebel leader Tataru was one of his obsessions, and the discovery that Tataru was really Sarasa devastated him.



Ageha

Capable of staying the hand of a king and arranging for 1,000 head of cattle on short notice, this mysterious desert nomad seems to be extremely informed and influential. Ageha lost his left eye when the Red King blinded it as payment for rescuing the 12-year-old Sarasa. Now he is Sarasa's slightly mercenary ally. Ageha uses his owl companion, Kagero, to carry messages to his contacts.

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FINAL TALE: DAWN • THE ANSWER





...TO
TAKE A
SINGLE
STEP.



WE'RE ALL
FROZEN,
UNABLE...



...BUT I
CAN'T
MOVE.



I HAVE TO
RUSH
OVER TO
HELP HIM...

TO
GIVE
FIRST
AID...

TINY TAM-TAM TIME ①

Hello!

How is everyone?

We're up to vol. (23)

Shuri's in a lot of
trouble...



Please enjoy! ♡

This cover is based on a pale blue-
green color called "asagi" in Japanese.
(I can't comment much since I
haven't drawn it yet...)

See you! ♡

TAKU.

SARASA'S JOURNEY





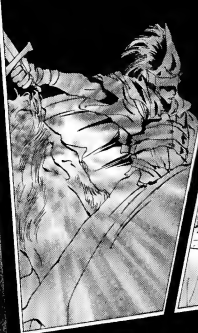
WE ARE
THE RED
ARMY!



A HUSH FELL
OVER THE
BATTLEFIELD...

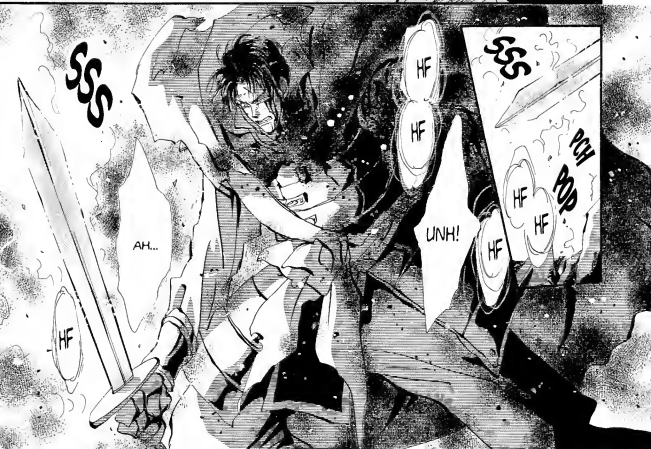
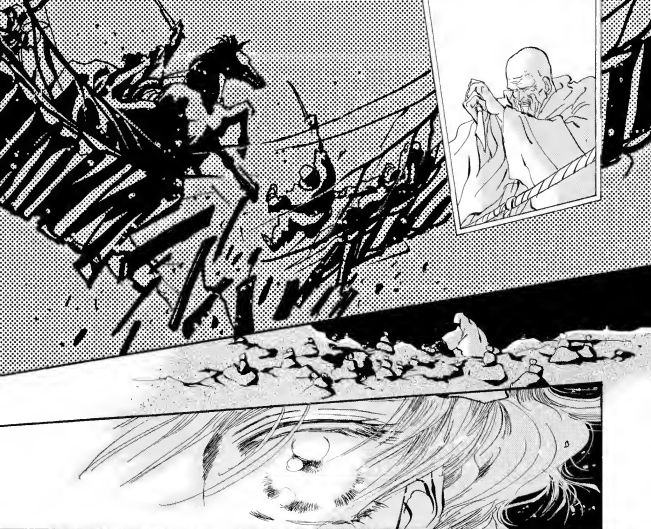
AS
TIME
STOOD
STILL.



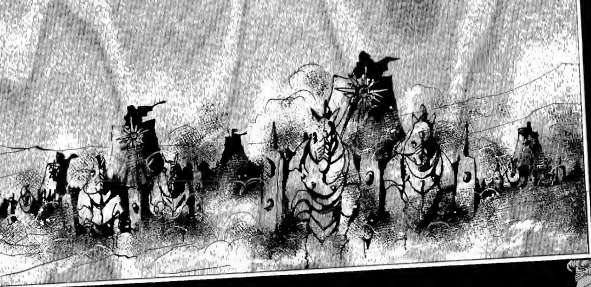
















I'D RATHER
SEE HIM
DEAD...THAN
CRIPPLED!



DID YOU
BRING US
HERE SO YOU
COULD KILL
US...

DID WE
COME
HERE TO
DIE?

BECAUSE
YOU CAN'T
ALLOW US
TO
REMAIN?



SIRE!

UH...

SIRE.

IS IT
TRUE?



WHAT
WERE WE
SUPPOSED
TO DO?

BUT...

WE'VE NEVER
MADE ANY
DECISIONS
FOR
OURSELVES!



I
TOLD
YOU...

TO
COME
...

...ONLY
IF YOU
WANTED
TO.



DID
I...

...FORCE
YOU TO
COME?



WHY...CAN'T
YOU MAKE
YOUR OWN
DECISIONS
?

WHY
NOT?

HF

HF



WILL YOU
KEEP...
DOING OTHER
PEOPLE'S
BIDDING...
FOREVER?

IT'S
YOUR
LIFE.



...TO
BLAME!

WE LET THIS
COUNTRY
CONTINUE IN
ITS IDIOTRY
FOR TOO
LONG!

FISH



HF

WE'RE
ALL...

HF



WHEN
WILL
YOU...

...STOP
BEING
SHEEP
?



...AS
SOLDIERS...

AS THE
NATION'S
PEOPLE!

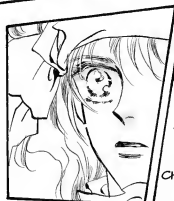
...BECAUSE
NOBODY
STOPPED TO
THINK! NOW
TATARA HAS
TAKEN A STAND,
YET YOU STILL...

YOU
FOLLOWED
ORDERS
BLINDLY...

THAT'S
THE
LEAST
YOU CAN
DO...

THINK!

USE
YOUR
MINDS!



...HAVE
THE
RIGHT
TO
CHOOSE...



YOU...



...STAY
WITH
THE
ROYAL
FAMILY?

ISN'T
IT?

THAT'S
THE
EASY
ROAD...



...WON'T
YOU
TAKE A
STAND?

WHY...

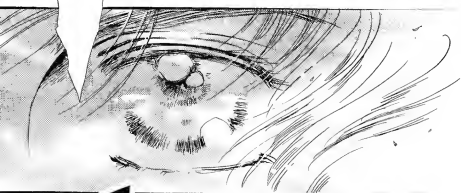


TO
DECIDE
WHERE
YOU
DIE.



...TO
CARVE
OUT
YOUR
NICHE.

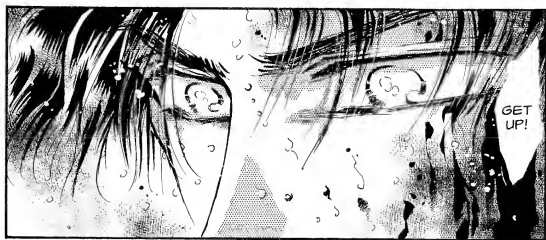






HF
HF

THOK



GET
UP!



STAND
ON
YOUR
OWN
TWO
FEET!



CH



DON'T
BE A
FOOL!



THINK
FOR
YOUR-
SELF!



A LIFE
OF YOUR
OWN!



LIVE A
LIFE
THAT
YOU
WANT!



ONLY YOU
CAN
FULFILL
YOUR
NEEDS!
YOUR
DESIRES!

BE THE
MASTER
OF YOUR
OWN LIFE!



ONLY
YOU...

...BELIEVE
IN YOUR-
SELF...

...CAN
RELY ON
YOUR-
SELF...

...AND
CARRY
YOUR OWN
BURDENS!

PROTECT
YOURSELF!



LIVE...

TAKE
PRIDE IN
YOUR
LIFE...

ACT...

...AND TAKE
RESPONSIBILITY
FOR YOUR
ACTIONS!

...FOR
YOUR-
SELF!

...ON
YOUR
OWN
WILL!



THAT...

...IS HOW
OUR
NATION
SHOULD
BE!



A
NATION...

...WORTHY
OF ITS
PEOPLE.



OUR NEW
NATION!

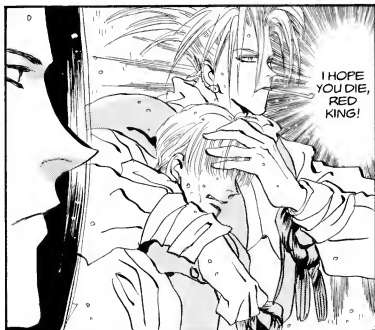






...WITHOUT
AVERTING YOUR
GAZE.

YOU'RE
FACING
HIM HEAD-
ON...



I HOPE
YOU DIE,
RED
KING!



IT'S NO
DIFFER-
ENT
FROM A
LIZARD...

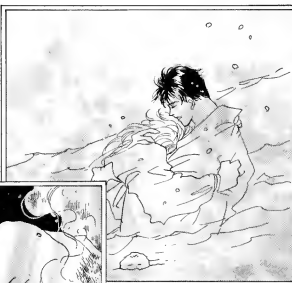
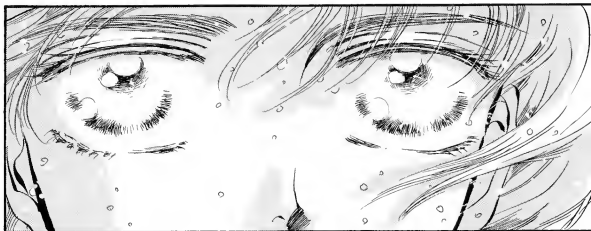
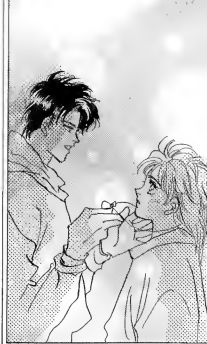
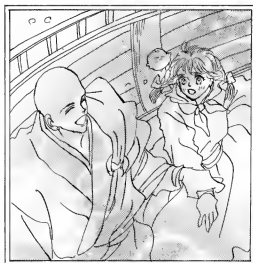
IT'S
THE
SAME
FOR
HIM.

HA!

...LOS-
ING
HIS
TAIL.



TATA-
RA...





...I
HEREBY
DECREE...

AS THE
LAST
KING...



...RELINQUISH
ALL POWER!

...I...



...I
SURRENDER
THIS
COUNTRY TO
YOU!

AS OF
THIS
MOMENT
...

...I'M NOT
GIVING
IT TO YOU
TO OWN.

BUT...

...TO THE
PEOPLE!

I'M
GIVING
IT
BACK...

TO THE
MILLIONS
WHO LIVE
HERE!

...OF
BUILD-
ING A
NATION.

BUT ALWAYS
REMEMBER
THE PAIN...

I'M
SURE
YOU
DON'T
CARE...

TATA-
RA!

TO
HEAR
IT
FROM
ME.





...AS
LONG
AS YOU
LIVE.



MAKE
THAT...

THE
NEED-
LESS
BLOOD...

SHED
HERE.

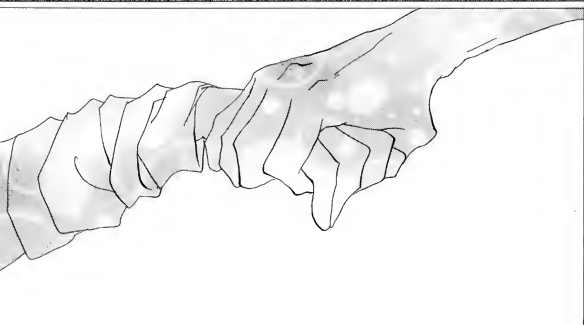
...YOUR
CROSS
TO
BEAR...

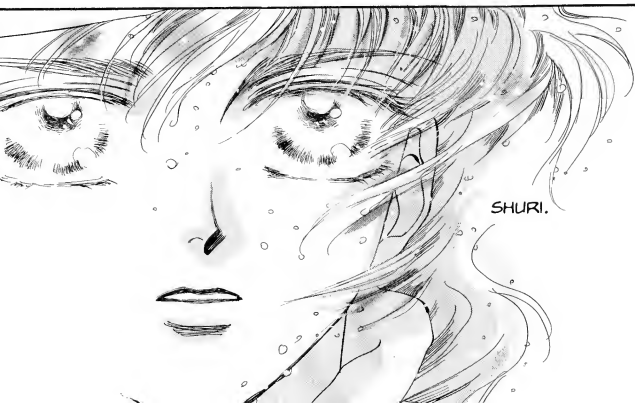


...TO
KYOTO.

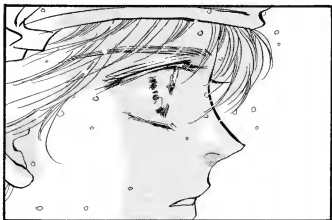
TATARA.

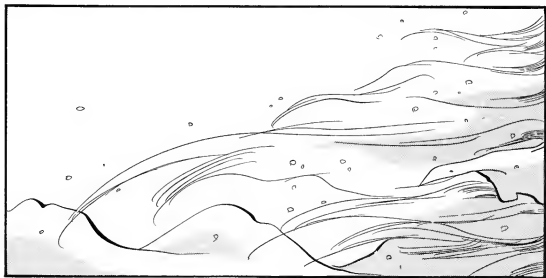
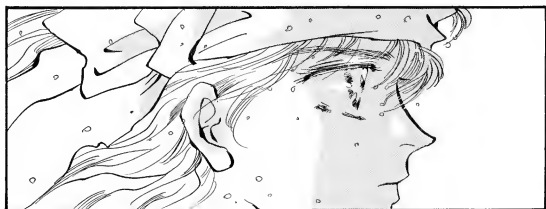
COME
WITH ME...

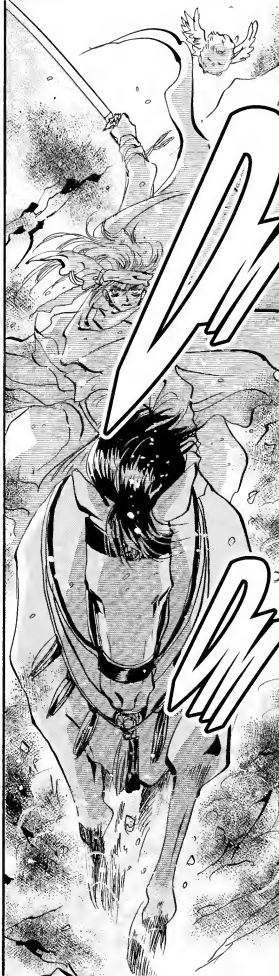


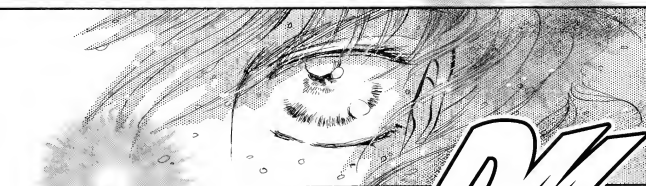




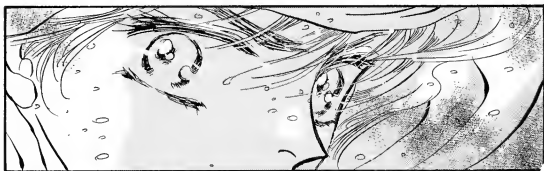
















...! BEHOLD?

WHAT IS THIS...

...THE RED KING?

TATARA DEFENDING...

...WHAT I WANTED TO SEE...

THIS IS NOT...

TATA-
RA!

LOOK OUT!

KILL THEM BOTH!

THERE'S TATARA!

NOW'S OUR CHANCE!

FINAL TALE: CERULEAN
— WRITING "LOVE"



RED
KING!



TINY TAM-TAM TIME ②

Did you see the BASARA anime on TV? Unfortunately, it wasn't a national broadcast, so only certain regions got it. If you watched it, please let me know what you thought!

Lots of people discovered BASARA for the first time, and started reading. Yay! ♪

Come to think of it, Shuri was really horrible in the beginning...

I'M THE KING!

THE VIDEO AND LASERDISC WILL GO ON SALE SOON, TOO!

TAMU.

SARASA'S JOURNEY

SUO CITY

SASAYAMA RUINS

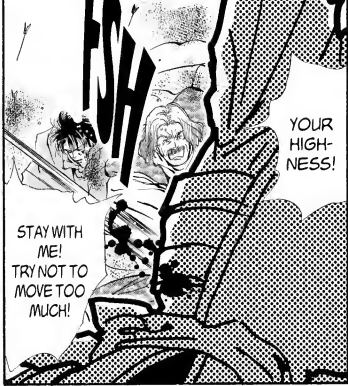
AKO

DEFENSIVE WALL

LAKE BIWA

KYOTO

Ageha



YOUR
HIGH-
NESS!

STAY WITH
ME!
TRY NOT TO
MOVE TOO
MUCH!

YOU'RE
RIGHT!



DON'T
CONCERN
YOURSELF
WITH ME!

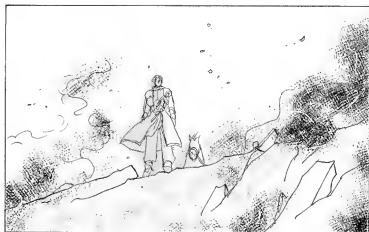


BUT I CAN
STILL
PROTECT
YOU!

I'M A
USELESS,
OLD-
FASHIONED
RELIC!

THAT'S
FINE!





BEIN' FRIENDS.

I DON'T LIKE IT
EITHER, BUT OH WELL.

HIJIRI.

LOOKS
LIKE...



HOP
TO IT!

HEY,
GUYS!



IT'S A
DEEP-
ROOTED
PROB-
LEM.



YEAH!

UH...



THE ROYAL
ARMY
DOESN'T
KNOW WHAT
TO DO,
EITHER.





THINK
FOR
YOURSELVES!

IT'S
YOUR
LIFE!

HE
SPOKE
HONESTLY...

EVEN TO
US LOWLY
SOLDIERS.

...AS
PEOPLE.

HE
TALKED
TO US...



WE HAVE TO
DECIDE FOR
OURSELVES.

WE CAN
STILL
MAKE IT
RIGHT.



HE DIDN'T
BRING US
HERE TO
KILL US.



SSHF

HEY!

WAIT!



...TO
SIDE
WITH
THE
PRINCE!

AND I
OPT...

ON MY
OWN...

I THINK HE
BROUGHT US
TO MAKE US
CHOOSE.





OF OUR
OWN
FREE
WILL...

WE'RE
HERE!

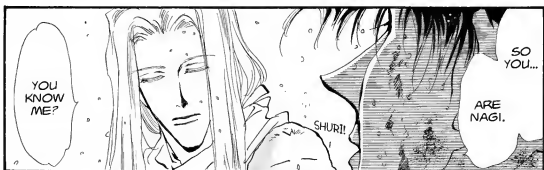
TAKE
US
WITH
YOU!

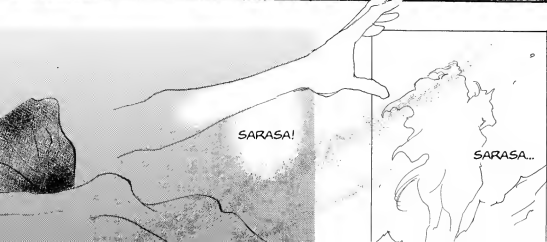
...WE
CHOOSE
TO
SHARE
OUR
FATE
WITH
YOU!

YOU
ASKED US
TO
DECIDE,
AND THIS
IS OUR
ANSWER!



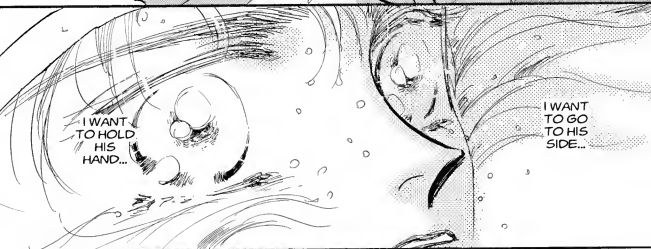
HANG
ON!





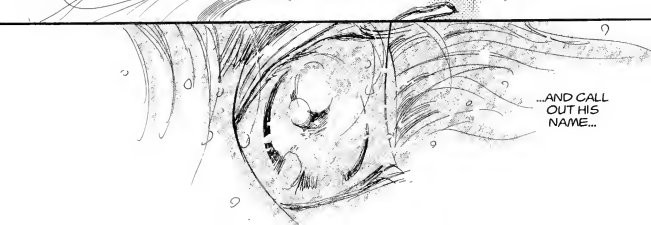


SARASA!



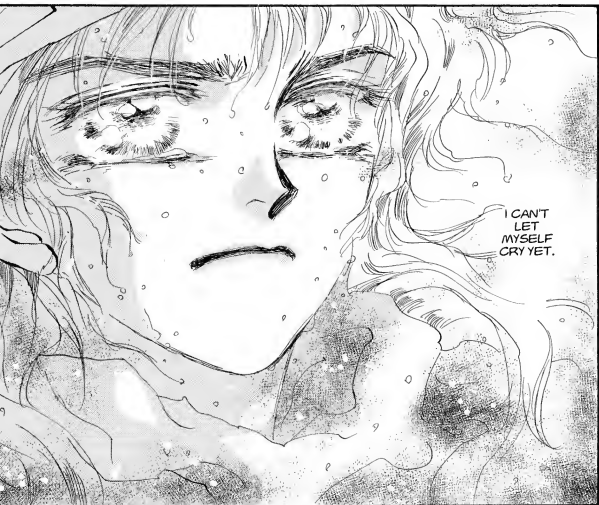
I WANT
TO HOLD
HIS
HAND...

I WANT
TO GO
TO HIS
SIDE...



...AND CALL
OUT HIS
NAME...

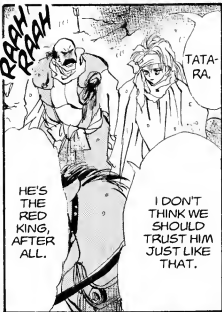
NOT
YET.



I CAN'T
LET
MYSELF
CRY YET.

...I'M STILL
TATARA.

NOT
WHILE...





ALL
KIDS...

GROW
UP IN
TIME.



CHIGU-
SA...

KAKU?

CHF



THEY
OPEN
THEIR
MINDS
TO THE
WORLD...

...GET TO
KNOW
MANY
PEOPLE...

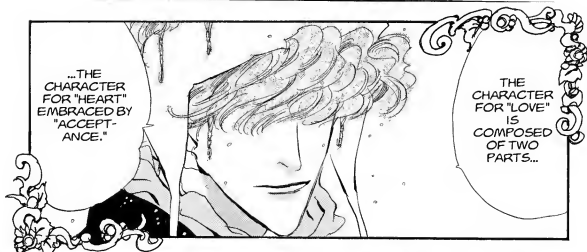
...AND
START
THINKING
ABOUT THE
FUTURE.

WHEN
THEY'RE
VERY YOUNG,
THEY ONLY
SEE THEM-
SELVES.

THEY
GRADUALLY
BECOME
AWARE OF
OTHERS.

...PERHAPS THE
PROCESS
REVERSES
ITSELF.

BUT WHEN
WE GET
OLD...



VERTICAL
TAM-TAM TIME: ①

Motomichi, meanwhile...



TAMU.



...BRING
THIS
BATTLE
TO A
SWIFT
END!

WE
WILL...



AH
THERE'S
THE
SIGNAL!

YEAH!



BUT THERE
WAS NO
TRUE
LEADER
AMONG
THEM.

HAGIWARA'S
ARMY, PLUS
THE SOLDIERS
WHO DEFECTED
FROM SHURI'S
ARMY...

ADDED UP
TO 35,000
MEN.

TATARA'S ARMY
NUMBERED TWICE
THAT, WITH THE
ADDITION OF SHURI'S
SOLDIERS.

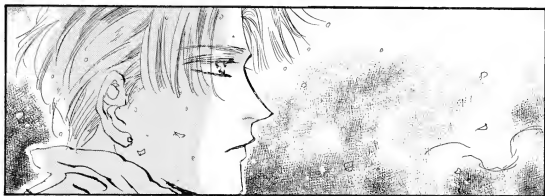
THEY
HAD THIS
MANY IN
RESERVE?

W
A
A
H
!





SUNSET...



SHE
WOULD
LIKE
YOU...

...TO COME TO
KYOTO AT
ONCE, AS THE
BLUE KING.



I HAVE A
MESSAGE
FROM THE
WHITE
KING.



LORD
ASA-
GI!

RAN-
MARU?



KYOTO
ROYAL
CASTLE

WHAT?

YES.

THAT'S
WHAT MY
MES-
SENGER
SAID.

THE RED IDIOT IS
SURRENDERING
THE COUNTRY TO
TATARA?



DAMN
HIM!

THIS IS
INSANITY!

HOW
COULD
HE?



WHERE'S
HAGIWARA?

ISN'T
HE
BACK
YET?

FA-
THER.



I
SHOULD'VE
KILLED HIM
LONG
AGO!

I
SHOULD'VE
SEEN IT
COMING!

HE'S THE BANE
OF MY
EXISTENCE!



IS THERE
NO ONE
LEFT?

I HAVE
NO
ALLIES...



THE
BLACK
KING...

IS
PROBABLY
DEAD.



AH.

WE MUST
FIND THE
BLACK
KING.

HE MUST
BE IN
HIDING
SOME-
WHERE.



YOU
DO...

FATHER.

ACTUALLY, YOU
HAVE ONE MORE...A
DARLING SON.



KING UKON
HAS BEEN
INFORMED.

HE'S
WAITING
FOR YOU
AT THE
CASTLE.



YES.

AS THE
RIGHTFUL
HEIR TO THE
THRONE.



AS THE
BLUE
KING?

A
BIT
LATE.



YOU MUST
COME TO
KYOTO...

...AND ANNOUNCE
YOURSELF.
EVERYTHING HAS
BEEN MADE
READY.



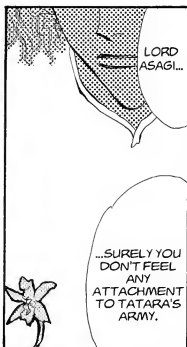
ANNOUNCE
MYSELF...



NOW
THAT...

...I'M AFRAID
THERE'S NO
MORE PLACE
FOR YOU
HERE, LORD
ASAGI.

...TATARA AND
THE RED KING
HAVE JOINED
FORCES...



LORD
ASAGI...

...SURELY YOU
DON'T FEEL
ANY
ATTACHMENT
TO TATARA'S
ARMY.



WHEREVER
YOU WISH
TO GO...

...I WILL
ALWAYS
FOLLOW,
LORD ASAGI.



LORD
ASAGI?

WHAT
DO
YOU
SAY?

IF YOU ASK
ME TO KILL
RANMARU, I
WILL.

MURA-
TAKE!



WATCH WHAT
YOU SAY,
RANMARU!



MURA-
TAKE...









AS...

WE'LL
TALK
IT
OUT...

...AND
THINK IT
THROUGH
TOGETHER!

BOOM!

F K



A BLUE
ONE.

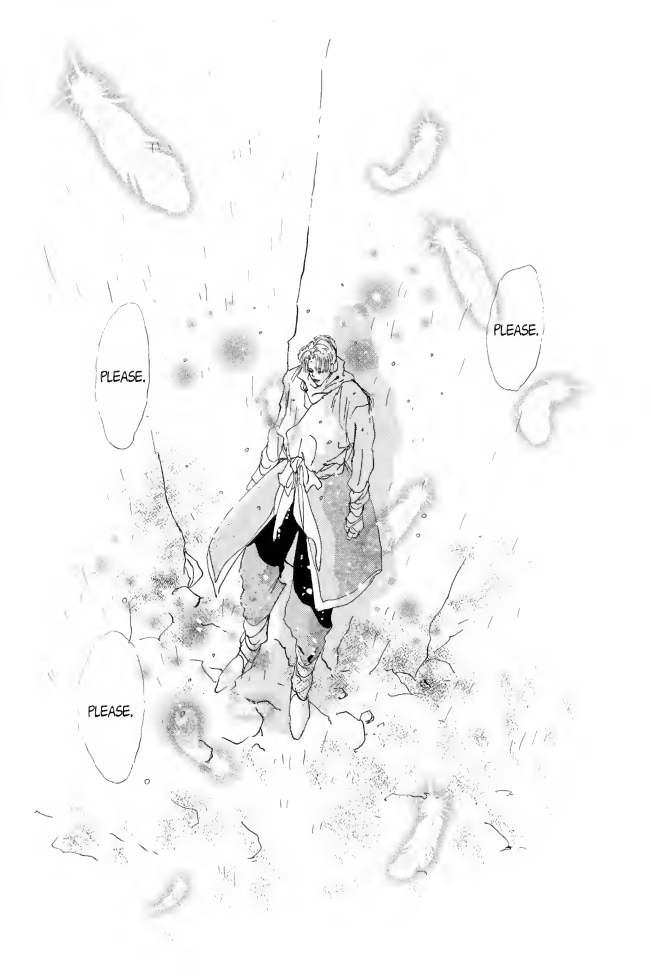
AN
EARRING...



IT'S
ASAGI'S.



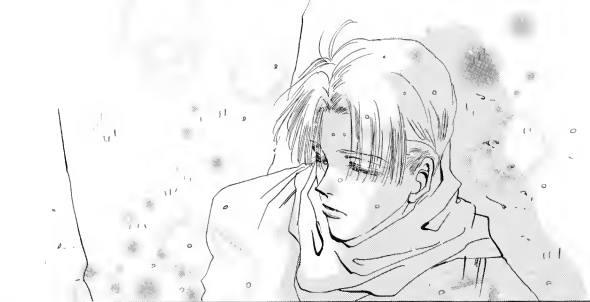
PLEASE,
GOD.



PLEASE.

PLEASE.

PLEASE.





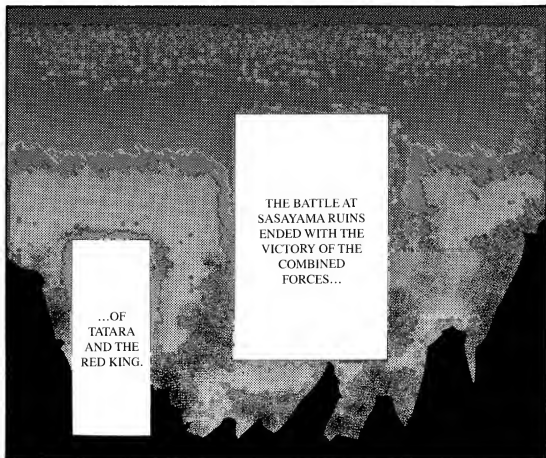


WHERE
DID YOU
GO?



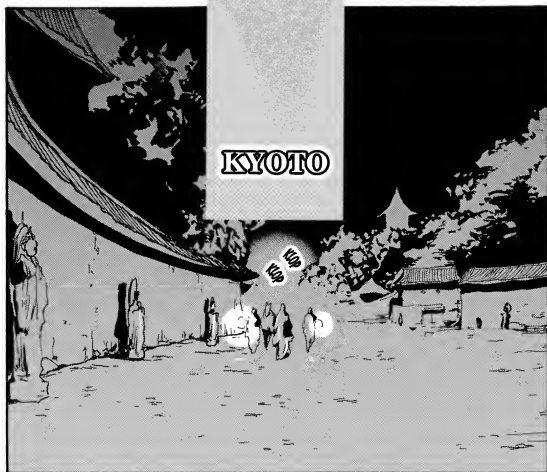
ASAGI!

ASAGI!



...OF
TATARA
AND THE
RED KING.

THE BATTLE AT
SASAYAMA RUINS
ENDED WITH THE
VICTORY OF THE
COMBINED
FORCES...





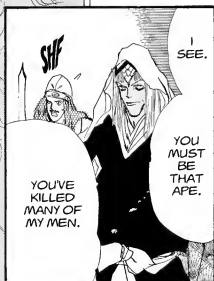
WHAT?



AN EARLY
RETURN?

AH,
COUNCILOR
HAGIWARA.





SHF

YOU'VE
KILLED
MANY OF
MY MEN.

I
SEE.

YOU
MUST
BE
THAT
APE.



AND NOW
YOU'VE
FINALLY
COME FOR
ME.



BND



CHF



BUT IT
WON'T BE
SO EASY
THIS TIME.

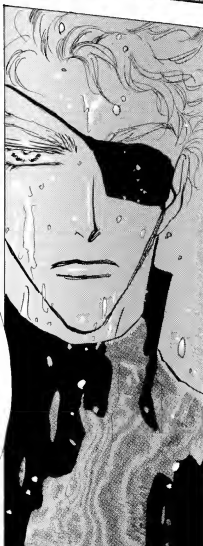


HEH
HEH

NOW...

FOOM!

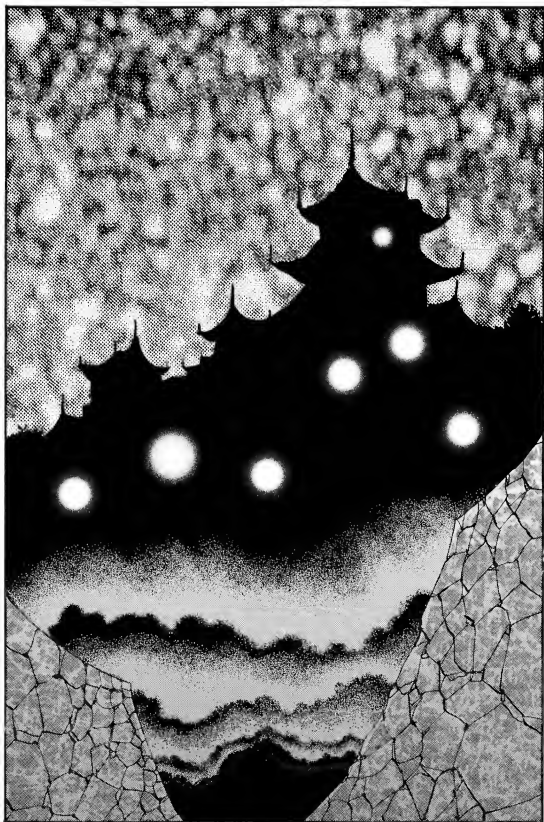
I WONDER
HOW
ROASTED
MONKEY
TASTES...

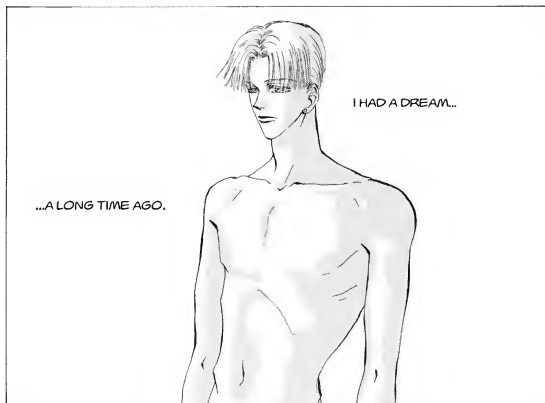


THAT'S
OIL.



FINAL TALE: LAVENDER
ACE IN THE HOLE





Tiny Tam-Tam Time ③

Thanks to everyone who bought the BASARA artbook, "Flame"! What did you think? They were able to include a lot of illustrations, from ones I did quite a while ago to recent work! ▶

The editors and designers had a lot of work to do.

I wanted to do a big illustration featuring the entire cast just for the artbook, so I went back and counted them.

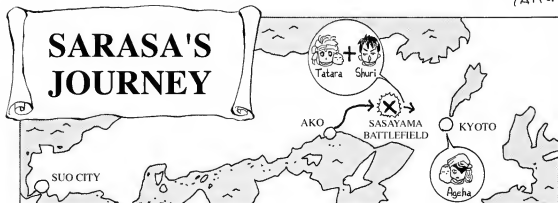
There were 130, and that was just the major characters.

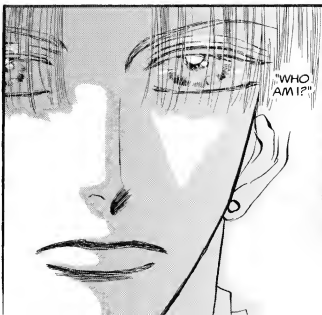
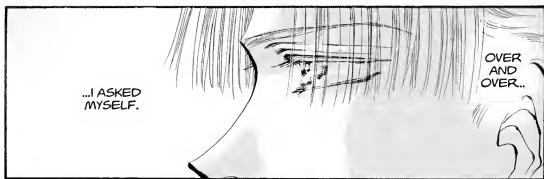


A second artbook is also on its way, so stay tuned! ♪

TANU.

SARASA'S JOURNEY







LET HIM
FEND
FOR
HIMSELF.

WHO?

I'VE
NEVER
HEARD
OF HIM.

MY
LADY.

COUNCILOR
HAGIWARA
IS BACK IN
KYOTO.

SHALL
WE
FETCH
HIM?

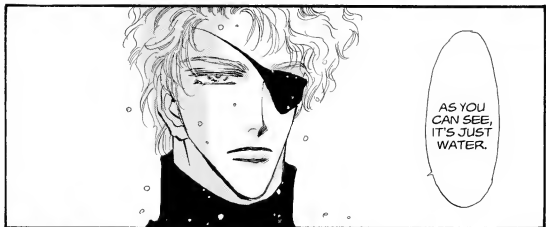
YOU
DESPICABLE
MURDERER!

LOOK AT
YOUR
SORRY
SELF,
DRIPPING
WITH OIL!

BURN
IN
HELL!

YOU'LL
GET WHAT
YOU
DESERVE!

YOU
WILL
DIE!





FILL IT WITH
WATER TO
FIGHT FIRES!

YEAH!

OUR
HOME!

THIS IS OUR
CITY!

WE CAN'T
LET THEM
BURN IT
DOWN!



LET
SAKU-
RADA
KNOW!

YES,
SIR!

ASK HIM
FOR HELP!



SAKU-
RADA
GATE!



FSH





...KILL MY FATHER!

IF I DON'T
COME
BACK...



YOU STAY
WITH THE
PEOPLE,
SAKURADA!



I CAN'T BELIEVE
HE GAVE ME THIS
MISSION!



KYOTO
WILL BE
SAFE...

THERE'LL
BE NO
MESS!

IF YOU SAY
THE
MONARCHY IS
ABOLISHED,
THEY'LL
LISTEN.

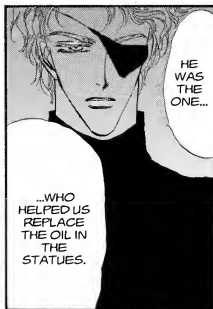


THE PEOPLE
SUPPORT
YOU.



COME
BACK,
RED
PRINCE!

COME
BACK
ALIVE!



HE
WAS
THE
ONE...

...WHO
HELPED US
REPLACE
THE OIL IN
THE
STATUES.



LORD
SAKURADA
WON'T HELP
YOU!

MY
LORD!

WHAT?



STOP.

W...

WAIT.



IT'S NOT
THE
SAME.



I JOINED
THE FREE-
FOR-ALL TO
GET MY
OWN SLICE
OF
POWER!

JUST
LIKE
TATARA
AND THE
RED
PRINCE!



WHAT
DID I DO
WRONG
?

YOU
WERE
DOING
THE
SAME
THING!



...THAT
THIS WAS
A GAME.

NO.

YOUR
FIRST
MISTAKE
WAS
THINKING...



DON'T
YOU
GET
IT?

THIS
WAR...

THAT'S
WHAT SHE'S
FIGHTING
FOR!

WE'RE
REMOVING
ALL FORMS
OF
OPPRESSION!

...IS PART OF
THE NATION'S
GROWING
PAINS.



THAT'S
WHY...

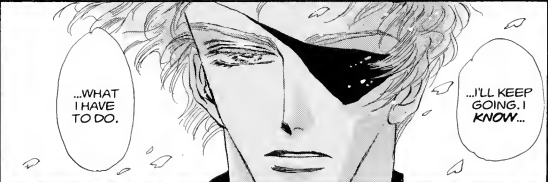
THAT'S
WHAT
TARO
DIED
FOR.



...WITH
TEARS
IN HER
EYES.



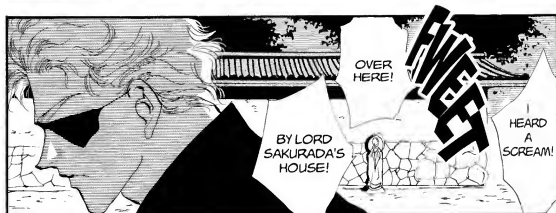
THAT'S
WHY
SHE
RIDES
OUT...

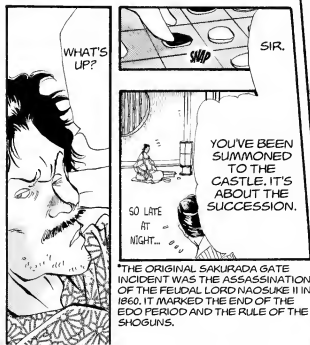


...WHAT
I HAVE
TO DO.

...I'LL KEEP
GOING. I
KNOW...







*THE ORIGINAL SAKURADA GATE INCIDENT WAS THE ASSASSINATION OF THE FEUDAL LORD NAOSUKE II IN 1860. IT MARKED THE END OF THE EDO PERIOD AND THE RULE OF THE SHOGUNS.





IT'S
COLD...



...IS GONE.

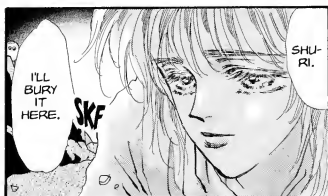
THE WARMTH ...

OF YOUR HAND...



SKF

SKF



I'LL BURY IT HERE.

SHU-RI.

SKF



SHK

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

UN...

KAKU? NOTHING!



THANK YOU.



SARASA...

EVERYTHING
SHOULD END
WHEN WE
MEET WITH
KING UKON.

WE'RE
HEADING
TO
KYOTO
WITH
THE RED
ARMY.

NO, I
HAVEN'T.

I HOPE YOU
HAVEN'T
GONE NEAR
THE RED
KING.

NOT
THE
REST
OF
HIM,
ANY-
WAY.

...IS GONE.

ASAGI...

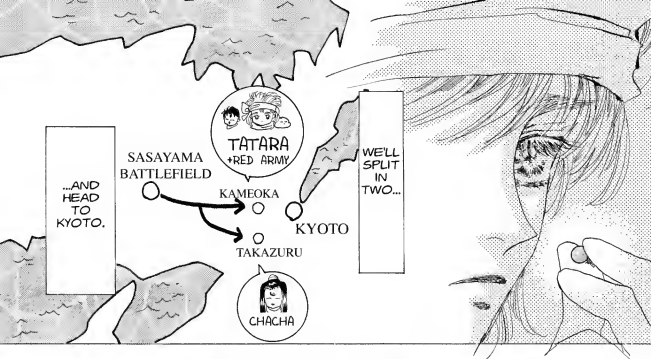
WE'LL TAKE
THE ROUTE
TO THE
SOUTH.

HE'LL BE
BACK.
DON'T
WORRY.

SEE YOU
IN KYOTO,
TATARA!

KIKU...

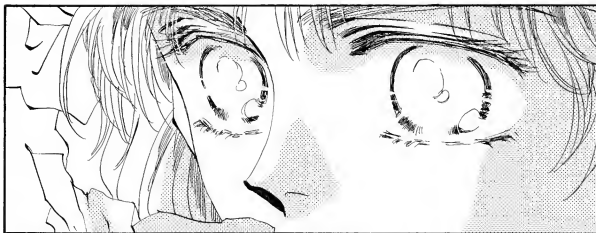
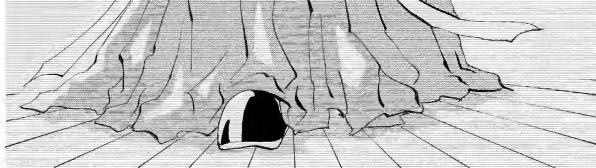
...IS GONE,
TOO.



HALF ARMOR







...WHOM
WOULD YOU
PICK?

IF YOU HAD
TO
CHOOSE...
...BETWEEN
ME AND
SHURI...

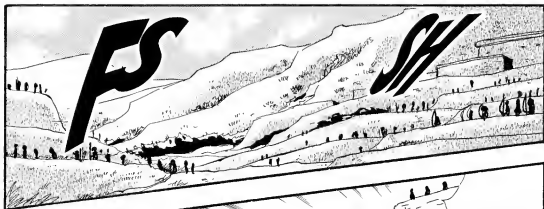


ASAGI, THE
BLUE
PRINCE...

...IS
GOING
TO BE
KING.







...YOU ARE
BARRED FROM
KAMEOKA
CASTLE!

BY ORDER
OF THE
NEW HEIR
TO THE
THRONE...



WHAT?

WE'VE
BEEN
TOLD
THAT
YOU...

AND THE
RED
PRINCE
ARE
TRAITORS
WHO
JOINED
TATARA.

I DEEPLY
REGRET
THIS,
LORD
TACHI-
BANA.

WAIT!
I'M
COUNCILOR
TACHIBANA!

I'M IN
CHARGE
OF THE
WEST!

THERE AREN'T
MANY TROOPS
BEHIND THEM!

RAAA

DON'T
HESITATE
TO SHOOT
HIM!

TATARA,
WE'VE BEEN
BETRAYED BY
ASAGI!

WA-AH

GET
BACK!

THIS WAS WHY
HE STOPPED
THE OTHERS!

ARGH!



MURA-
TAKE?

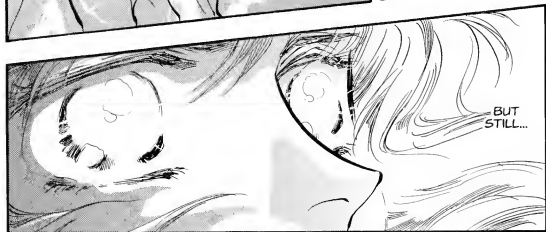
WATCH
OUT!

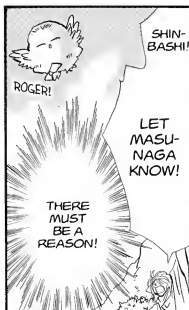
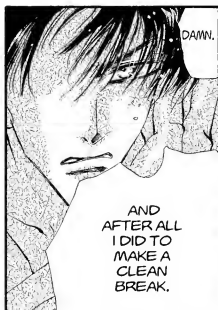
HUH?

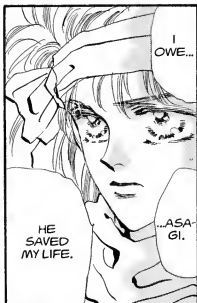
ISN'T
THAT...











BUT
TATARA...

...WILL NEVER
ATTACK THE
POPULACE.

AND
SHURI...

...WHAT WILL YOU DO?
I'VE DECLARED WAR
ON YOU FOR THE
FIRST TIME.

THEY'LL
NEVER SUR-
RENDER.

NO, I
DON'T
THINK
SO.

HOW WILL YOU
GET OUT OF
THIS?

LET'S FIGHT
THIS OUT,
SHURI.



VERTICAL
TAM-TAM TIME: ②

MOTOMICHI,
MEANWHILE...



TANU

...CAN
YOU TALK
BACK TO
ME LIKE
THIS?

HOW...

ASA-
GI?

PLEASE
DON'T
INTER-
FERE.

HIIRA-
GI...

DON'T TRY TO
GET UP.

HE WON'T
REMAIN A
CHILD
FOREVER.

THE
YARO-
GUMI ARE
HERE.

LORD
ASA-
GI?

YEAH.

I
CALLED
THEM
OVER.

OH?

HACHI-
YA,
RIGHT?

I
WONDER
WHY HE
CAME
BACK.



YOUR
FAMILY WAS
RUINED...

I HEAR
YOUR
GRAND-
FATHER...

WAS A SENIOR
OFFICIAL WHO
LOST HIS JOB
UNDER
SUSPICION OF
CORRUPTION.

SO,
HACHIYA.

...ITS
PROUD
HISTORY
DENIED.

YOUR FATHER
SPENT HIS
LIFE AT THE
BOTTOM OF
THE SOCIAL
LADDER,
TRYING TO
CLEAR THE
FAMILY NAME.

SO
MUCH
WORK.



THANK
YOU,
SIR.



YOU'RE THE
ONLY MAN
WHO'D PUT
HIS HEART
INTO HIS
WORK...

...FOR THE
ROYAL
FAMILY
NOW.



WORK
FOR
ME.

I'LL
RESTORE
YOUR
FAMILY'S
NAME.



GATHER THE
PEOPLE
AROUND THE
CASTLE AND
CREATE A
HUMAN WALL.

HERE'S
YOUR
FIRST
TASK.



OF
COURSE
NOT!



BUT...

...WE
CAN'T
SURREN-
DER.



SO
DID I.

I DON'T
INTEND
TO
ATTACK.



NO TIME
TO
ARGUE.

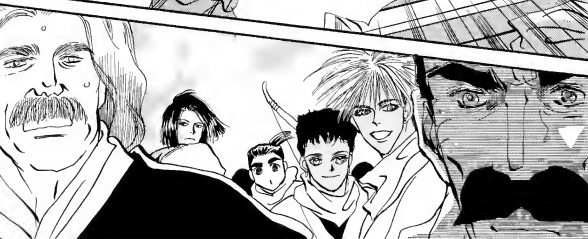
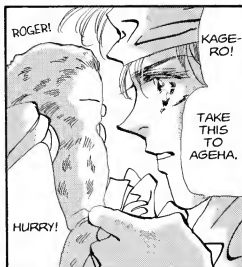
TATARA,
LISTEN.

I...

YOUR
HIGH-
NESS,
PLEASE
REST.

PROMISED
I WOULDN'T
LET KYOTO
BURN.









MAKE A
HUMAN
WALL
AROUND
THE
CASTLE!

I'M
TAKING
THE
PEOPLE
OF
KYOTO
HOS-
TAGE!

WAAAH

YOU
CANNOT
HIDE!

KILL
EVERYONE
WHO
RESISTS!

IT'S THE
BLUE
PRINCE'S
ORDERS!

SEIZE
EVERY
LAST
ONE!

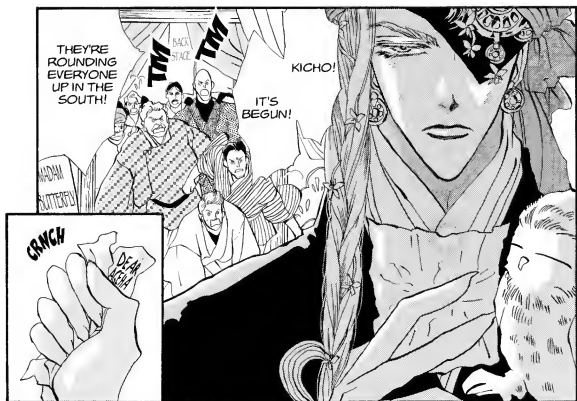
FINAL TALE: TAN
A SWARM OF MICE

FINAL TALE: TAN • A SWARM OF MICE



THE
ROYAL
FAMILY
...

...WANTS
TO USE
US AS A
SHIELD!



*KICHO IS AGEHA'S STAGE NAME.

TINY TAM-TAM TIME ④

I went to almost all the anime voice recording sessions (they had one every week). The staff and the voice actors were hard at work, but I enjoyed it like a fangirl!

So many well-known voice actors!
There was always a large cast because
of the many characters... ?
It was great!

THEY'RE SO
COOL!



These things don't just
happen in life. BASARA
and I are so lucky! ♡

TAMU

SARASA'S JOURNEY

SASAYAMA
BATTLEFIELD

AKO

MAIN ARMY



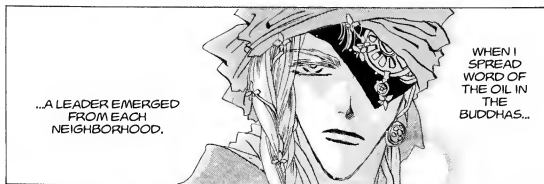
KAMEOKA
CASTLE

TAKAZUKI
CASTLE

KYOTO

Ageha

Asagi
Castle





...OUR
COUNTRY
WILL
NEVER
DIE.

TATARA.

THIS
IS
WHY...



WHOA!

I CAN TAKE
CARE OF
THAT PART.

HEY!



WE'LL
TAKE A
STAND!

WE'LL
FIND A
WAY!

...BUT
IT'LL BE
RISKY.

WE STILL
HAVE A
CARD
LEFT TO
PLAY...



IF WE CAN
STALL THE
YARO-GUMI
AND THE
OFFICIALS...

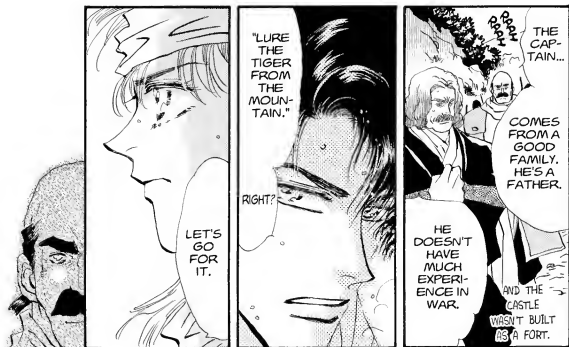


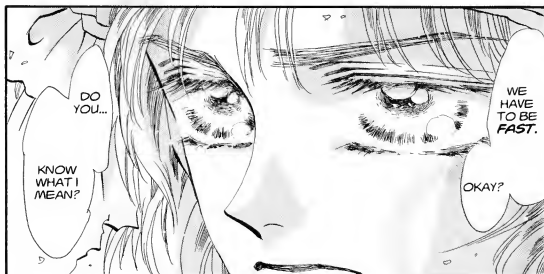
WE
WILL
LIVE!

WE'LL
DO IT!













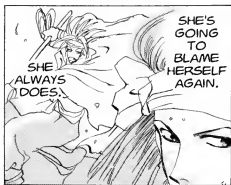


IF ONLY
ASAGI
HADN'T
GIVEN OUT
THAT
ORDER...



...THAT
WE
CARRIED
HIM
ALONG.

AND SHE
FEELS
RESPON-
SIBLE...



SHE
ALWAYS
DOES...

SHE'S
GOING
TO
BLAME
HERSELF
AGAIN.



GET
GOING!



TATARA...

SHE
WAS
ALMOST
IN
TEARS.



...WE
HAVE
TO
FIGHT
THESE
PEOPLE.

IT'S
ASAGI'S
FAULT...



GO AID
THE
EASTERN
FRONT!

MOVE
IN BIG
GROUPS!

IT'LL
CONFUSE
THEM!

RAAH

YOU IN THE
CENTER!
DON'T GO
TOO FAR!

USE
YOUR
HEADS!

YOU!

YES SIR!

STAY
IN
BED!

...ASAGI
WAS
THE
ENEMY.

BOTH
TIMES...

THAT'S
NOT
TRUE.

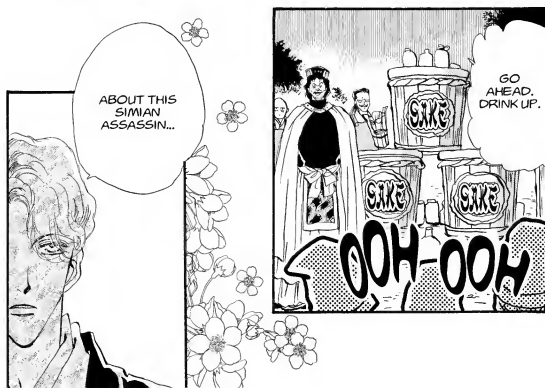
WE
WORKED
TOGETHER
IN KANTO.

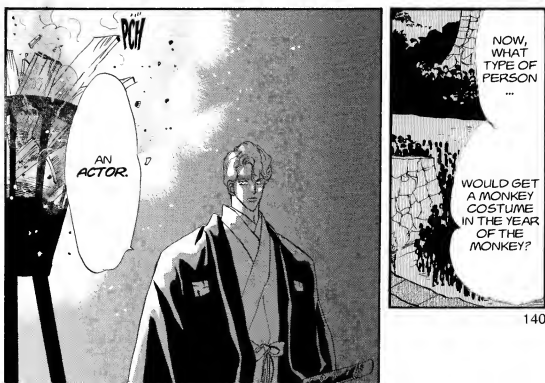
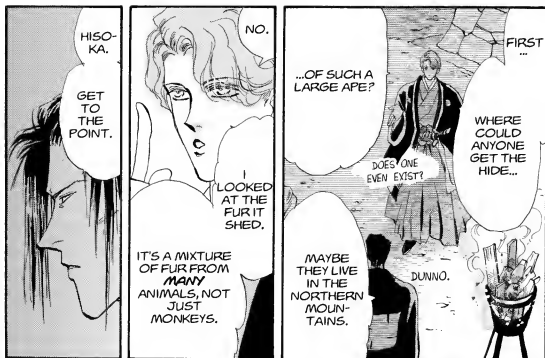
SHURI.

I NEVER
IMAGINED
WE'D FIGHT
TOGETHER

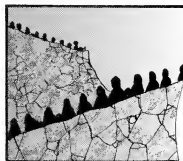
NOT
LIKE
THIS.





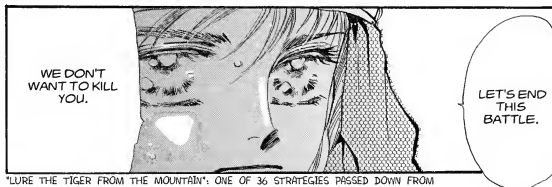






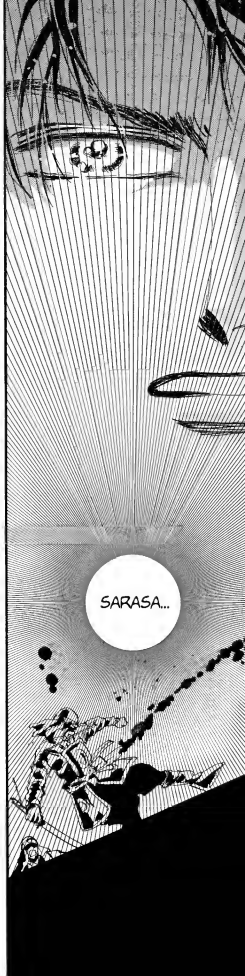
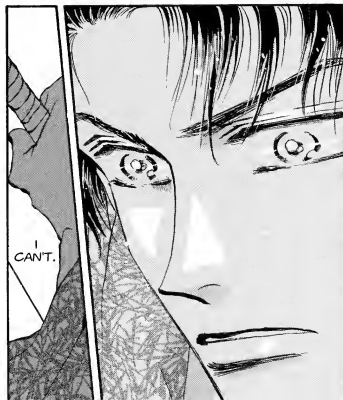
KAMEOKA
CASTLE





"LURE THE TIGER FROM THE MOUNTAIN": ONE OF 36 STRATEGIES PASSED DOWN FROM ANCIENT CHINA. TATARA.





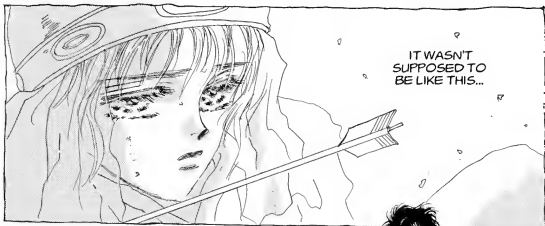


THAT'S
ALL WE
CAN
DO!



ARE YOU
TRYING TO WIN
ME OVER?
YOU INSULT ME
WITH YOUR PITY!

WE ONLY
KNOW HOW
TO FOLLOW
ORDERS!



IT WASN'T
SUPPOSED TO
BE LIKE THIS...



THIS IS
HOW I
KILLED
SHIDO.

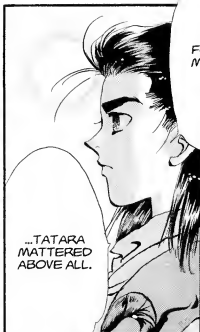


RED
KING.

WELL DONE,
HAYATO!
YAY!



WHAP



...TATARA
MATTERED
ABOVE ALL.



FOR
ME...



OW...

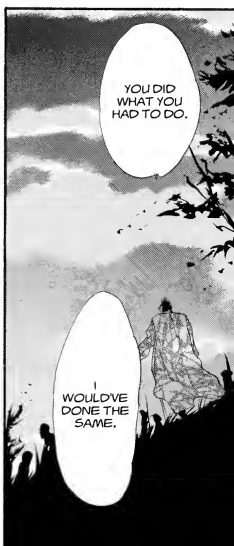
I HAVE
TO SEE
ASAGI.

THIS'LL
HURT.



...AND...

SEE
HIM...



YOU DID
WHAT YOU
HAD TO DO.

I
WOULDOVE
DONE THE
SAME.



IT'S
QUIET.



IS
SOMETHING
WRONG WITH
THE HUMAN
WALL?

HUH?

TP
TP

LORD
ASA-
GI!

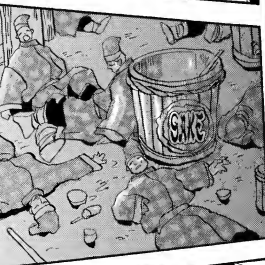
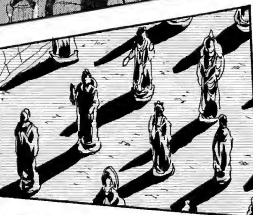
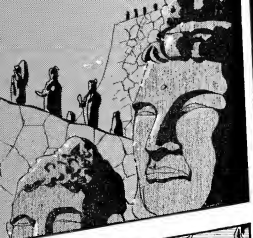


IT
LOOKS
THE
SAME...

TAKE A
LOOK
OUT-
SIDE!



SO
QUIET.







HURRY!

THEY'LL
COME
AFTER US
WHEN DAY
BREAKS!



NOW WE
HAVE TO
COUNT ON
TATARA...

WE GOT THIS
FAR THANKS
TO
COUNCILOR
SAKURADA.



YOU'RE
EARLY!

THERE
YOU
ARE!

HACHI-
YA!

EEK

THE
APE!

ARE YOU
BEHIND
THIS?



AGE-
HA!

TAKE THE
PEOPLE OF
KYOTO TO
SAFETY!

TO
AGEHA



GO!
RUN!



GET
HIM!



HE'S
THE
APE!

...AS IF
THERE'S NO
TOMORROW
...

MAKES
RIDICULOUS
REQUESTS...

WHEN
TATARA...

...IT'S
BECAUSE...

...SHE HAS
FAITH THAT
I'LL NEVER
DIE!

AND THIS
CAPTAIN
OF
THEIRS...

SO
MUCH
ENERGY.

...I'VE HAD TO
FORM AN
ALLIANCE WITH
THE FORMER
BLACK ARMY.

FOR
THIS...
FORMER
BLACK ARMY

KAMEOKA ○

TAKAZUKI ○

KYOTO

SAKU-
RADA
OF THE
EAST

I'M IN
CHARGE
OF THE
EAST.

TATARA'S
ARMY WILL
PICK UP THE
PEOPLE WHO
RAN SOUTH
AND WEST.



ICHIMATSU
OF HIDA,
AT YOUR
SERVICE!



AGEHA!

RAAH

KTA
KTA
KTA
KTA

HA
HA

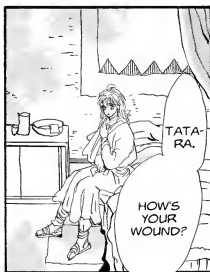
GOT YOU
BACK,
YARO-
GUMI!

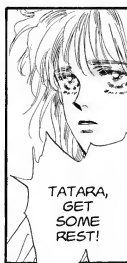
HA
HAHA

I'M
HERE!

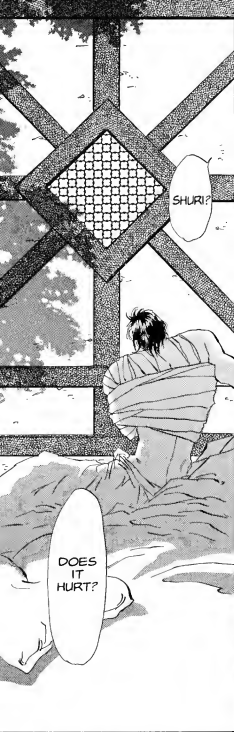






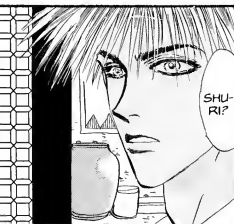






SHURI?

DOES
IT
HURT?



SHU-
RI?

THIS IS A
MEMO
HAGIWARA
WAS
CARRYING.

HIS
WRITING
IS
SLOPPY.

HMM?

THEY SAY THE
EMERGENCY
PASSAGE
DOWN THERE
IS LIKE A
MAZE.

AN OLD
ONE.

I'VE NEVER BEEN THERE.

HM?

...A MAP
TO THE
CASTLE
BASEMENT.

OH,
MAYBE
IT'S...



WHAT?

HAS HE LAID A
TRAP IN THE
CASTLE
BASEMENT?



I SHOULD
KNOW.



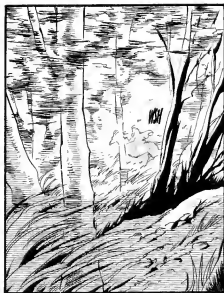
I KNOW...

...THAT
FACE
TOO
WELL.



THAT'S
THE
SARASA...

...WHO
ALWAYS
LEFT ME
BEHIND.



...LOSE HER
AGAIN.

I WON'T
EVER...

ONE-PAGE EXTRA

TAM-TAM TIME

Hello!

BASARA ended as a serial just the other day (it's now June '98). The graphic novels will keep going for a while longer, so please write to me when you finish it!

BETSU-COMI magazine is running bonus episodes now, featuring various characters, so please check it out!

♡ =

SEE YOU!



There's going to be a second artbook! ♡ = (I wrote about this earlier.) It'll come with a deck of playing cards! I drew so much art for that (each card is a different character).

It looks very fun and beautiful (I think) so please buy it when it's published!

There may be more bonuses, too...

THIS JUMPED INTO MY HEAD: 2
"GOOD LUCK, MURATAKE"



Check out the anime! A novel is coming out, too! (I didn't write it. A novelist adapted the manga into a novel.) It'll be a different way to enjoy it! Please keep up with your support a little while longer! ♡ =

There are two bonus episodes in the back of this book. I drew them about two years ago for a dojinshi* I put out myself called BASARAN, which they allowed me to include here. I hope the people who bought the dojinshi don't feel gypped. I'm sorry, but I really wanted to include them.

← I drew these comic strips → for a dojinshi, too. Yes, I do stupid things like this all the time. BASARAN was only sold at a special event, and there are no more copies available, so please don't request any. I'm sorry! =

THIS JUMPED INTO MY HEAD: 1
"WHERE THE EARRING WENT"



*Doinshi: self-published comics, usually fancomics featuring manga or anime characters.

TAMU.

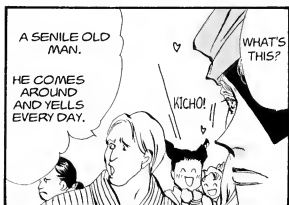
EXTRA

REUNION IN KYOTO

WILL THAT
CHANGE
ANYTHING?

THE RED
KING HAS
RETURNED
TO KYOTO.





YOUR SON IS
DEAD,
REMEMBER?

MY
SON!

WHERE'S
MY SON?

YOU
CAN'T
REASON
WITH HIM.

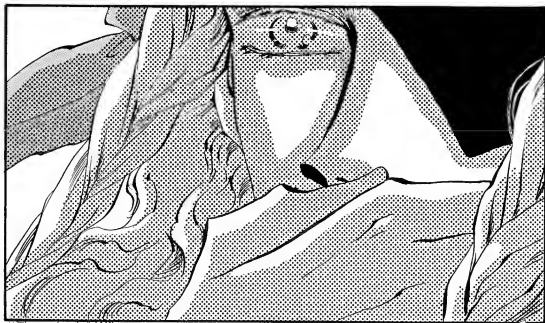
WE
CAN'T
DEAL
WITH
HIM.

AND HE
PISSES HIS
PANTS...

GET
OUT!

WHAT HAVE
YOU DONE
WITH SHIDO?

MY SON!





MY BACK...

IT
FEELS
LIKE
IT'S ON
FIRE.

WHOA!

AGEHA,
WHAT ARE
YOU DOING
HERE?



SHIRA-SU?

SORRY,
WHO ARE
YOU?



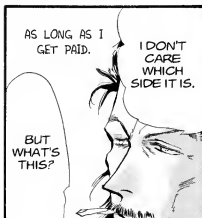
WE'RE
FATED TO
BE
TOGETHER.

I DIDN'T THINK
I'D EVER SEE
YOU AGAIN.



YOU'RE
A
FOOL.

ARE YOU
GOING
TO JOIN
THE
KING'S
ARMY?



AS LONG AS I
GET PAID.

I DON'T
CARE
WHICH
SIDE IT IS.

BUT
WHAT'S
THIS?



I HEARD
THERE'S A
WAR DOWN
HERE.

FIGURED
IT'D BE
EASY TO
GET
WORK.

AND HERE I
RUN INTO
YOU!



DON'T
TELL ME
YOU
FORGOT
ABOUT
ME.

ALL THE
WOMEN
IN THE
WORLD...

...CAN'T
MAKE ME
FORGET
ABOUT YOU.







THIS ISN'T
PRISON!

IF I
WANTED, I
COULD KILL
YOU WITH
ONE
STRIKE!



GAH!

URG!

MY
BALLS!

WHAT'RE
YOU ALL
EXCITED
ABOUT?

WHERE DO
YOU THINK
WE ARE?

GRII GRII



I DON'T
NEED YOU
OR
ANYONE
ELSE...

...TO
PITY
ME!



...GUESS
WHAT?

GRII

GRII
GRII

GRII

SURE, I'M
NOT
FEELING
GREAT
RIGHT
NOW.

I'LL DEAL WITH
THIS
SITUATION ON
MY OWN!

BUT...



I
THOUGHT
I LOST
EM...



I WON'T
GIVE UP ON
YOU YET.

THAT ALMOST FELT
GOOD. AM I A
MASOCHIST?

"EVERY-
THING
COMES TO
THOSE WHO
WAIT."



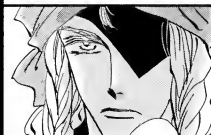
ON MY
OWN...



I CAN'T
BELIEVE I
LET HIM
GET TO
ME.

WHO AM I
TO
LECTURE
TATARA?

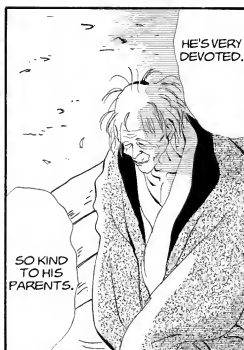






WHERE
COULD HE
HAVE
GONE?

WHY WON'T
HE COME
HOME
ANYMORE?



HE'S VERY
DEVOTED.

SO KIND
TO HIS
PARENTS.



GET
UP.

YOU'LL
CATCH A
COLD
THAT WAY.

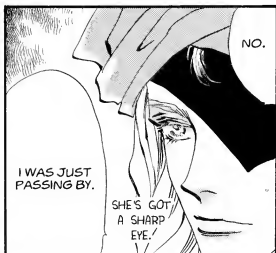


SHES
SHES
SHES











THE RED
KING?

IT'S BEEN A
LONG TIME!



OH!

UNCLE!

TP
TP

AUNT!



THEY
USED TO
BE SO
COLD
AND
DISTANT...



IT'S ALL
RIGHT,
LORD
SHURI.

IT'S ALL
RIGHT
NOW.



I'M SORRY
I CAUSED
YOU
TROUBLE.

I'LL PREPARE
A HOUSE FOR
YOU...
SOMEWHERE
QUIET,
OUTSIDE OF
KYOTO.

BUT YOU
WON'T HAVE
TO WORRY
ANYMORE.



WE'RE
FINE
THE WAY
WE ARE.



I'M THE
ONLY ONE
HE HAS
RIGHT NOW.

WE CAN
FINALLY BE
HUSBAND
AND WIFE.



ALL OF HIS
PAGE-
BOYS...

NOBODY
ELSE
STAYED
BUT ME.

...LEFT
HIM, LIKE
AN OUT-
GOING
TIDE.

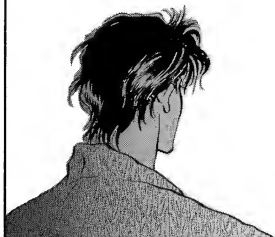


YOU SEEM SO
GOOD AND
NOBLE NOW.

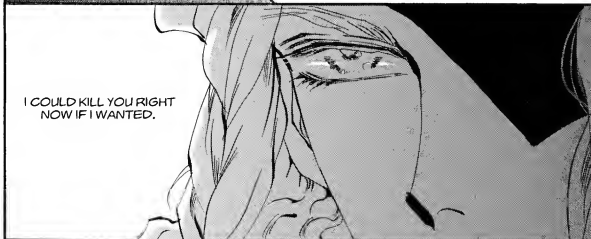
HO HO

I'M
IMPRESSED,
LORD SHURI...





WHY ARE YOU STANDING
THERE, SO VULNERABLE?



I COULD KILL YOU RIGHT
NOW IF I WANTED.





DID YOU, TOO...



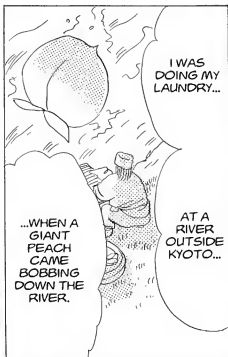
...LOVE HIM
DEARLY?





EXTRA

A SLEEPLESS NIGHT



*THIS IS THE BEGINNING OF THE JAPANESE FAIRY TALE MOMOTARO, OR "PEACH BOY."





I CAN'T
IMAGINE A
WORLD
WITHOUT
YOU, NAGI.

YEAH...

IF HE
HADN'T
SAVED YOU, I
NEVER
WOULDN'T
MET YOU.



TATARA.

I THOUGHT
YOU WENT
TO BED...

SO YOU
COULD GO
TO SLEEP.

COVER
YOUR-
SELF!
IT GETS
COLD AT
NIGHT.

OKAY!



ONLY
UNTIL
YOU
FALL
ASLEEP.



NO?

LIKE
YOU
USED
TO?



WILL YOU
HOLD MY
HAND?

NAGI?



ASAGI?

ALL
RIGHT.

COULD
YOU TAKE
MY
PLACE?

YOU ONLY
NEED TO
HOLD HER
HAND.



THERE
YOU
ARE.

NAGI?

HAYATO
HAS A
STOMACH-
ACHE.

I
BET HE ATE
SPOILED FOOD.



HM.

ARE
YOU
GOING
TO?



ME?

YOU'RE
SURE?

WHAT
IF I DO
SOME-
THING TO
HER?



NO, I'M
NOT.

...

